A Church Catechism

BY THE REVEREND

ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL KNOWLES

RECTOR OF SAINT ALBAN'S CHURCH

OLNEY, PHILADELPHIA

AND AUTHOR OF "THE PRACTICE OF RELIGION," ETC.

"First give thyself to God, then
to the work God gives thee to do"
Saint Augustine

PUBLISHED BY

SAINT ALBAN'S CHURCH

OLNEY, PHILADELPHIA

¶ The present Catechism owes its publication to its successful use at Saint Alban's Church, Olney, Philadelphia, in connection with the Sunday School, where the system of Instruction is an adaptation of the famous "Method of Saint Sulpice."

¶ The following outline may be of interest: there are no teachers or officers except the Parish Priest who conducts the Instructions and the Secretaries who keep the marks and records; the children sit in rows, the younger ones front, the older ones back; the entire session is an hour or less and may be combined with a Children's Mass; the opening service consists of a Hymn, the Our Father, the Hail Mary, a Psalm, the Creed and three Collects; the Instructions first refer to the Day or Season, then explain three Bible Pictures, then take up the Catechism and conclude with a little teaching on the Bible and Prayer Book; the session closes with a Hymn, the Divine Praises and a Blessing.

¶ Also there is the individual questioning of scholars who stand up to answer. And from time to time there are short compositions. This method, of course, adds a burden to the Parish Priest if all alone, but is well worth while. It is much to be desired that our Communion have a Teaching Order of Laymen like the Christian Brothers of the Roman Catholics.

¶ It is desirable but not necessary to memorize the Instructions in this Catechism.

A Church Catechism

I. The Existence of God

1. *Who is God?*

   God is a Spirit, the Creator and Ruler of all things, Who has neither beginning nor end.

2. *What is God?*

   God is Love, infinitely good, holy, merciful and just, all powerful and all seeing.

3. *How do we know there is God?*

   We know that there is God from the Works of Nature, the Voice of Conscience and the Existence of the Soul.

4. *Where is God?*

   God is everywhere.

5. *If God is everywhere, why cannot we see God?*

   We cannot see God because God is a Spirit and cannot be seen by man.

6. *Does God see us?*

   Yes, God sees us and knows our every thought, word and deed.

7. *Does God watch over us?*

   God watches over us.

8. *Can God do all things?*

   God can do all things, for with God "all things are possible."

9. *Is there only One True God?*
There is only One True God, the ever blessed and glorious Trinity: Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

10. *Is God to be worshipped and adored?*
Yes: God is to be worshipped and adored, on earth as He is in Heaven.

II. The Holy Angels

11. *Who did God first make?*
God first made spiritual beings called Angels.

12. *Why did God make Angels?*
God made Angels for His Honour and Glory.

13. *How do Angels show God's Honour and Glory?*
Angels show God's Honour and Glory in praise, worship and service.

14. *Did God make Angels for any other purpose?*
God made Angels to be His Messengers.

15. *Are Angels often mentioned in the Bible?*
Angels are often mentioned in the Bible.

16. *How many Choirs of Angels does the Bible name?*
The Bible names nine Choirs of Angels.

17. *How are the nine Choirs of Angels arranged?*
The nine Choirs of Angels are arranged into three Orders.

18. *Who are the first Order of Angels?*
The first Order of Angels are Seraphim, Cherubim and Thrones.

19. *Who are the second Order of Angels?*

The second Order of Angels are Dominions, Principalities and Powers.

20. *Who are the third Order of Angels?*

The third Order of Angels are Virtues, Archangels and Angels.

21. *Who are the Four Archangels?*

The Four Archangels are Saint Gabriel, Saint Michael, Saint Raphael and Saint Uriel.

22. *Who are Guardian Angels?*

Guardian Angels are those given us to watch over and help us.

23. *Did not an Angel announce the Incarnation?*

The Angel Gabriel announced the Incarnation when he told the Blessed Virgin she should be the Mother of Our Lord.

24. *What do we call this Message of the Angel?*

We call this Message of the Angel the Angelic Salutation or the "Hail Mary."

25. *Do we know any Hymns of the Angels?*

Yes, we know two Hymns of the Angels: the "Sanctus" and the "Gloria in Excelsis."

26. *What is the "Sanctus"?*

The "Sanctus" is the Hymn sung by the Seraphim before the Throne of God: "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of Thy Glory."

27. *What is the "Gloria in Excelsis"?*

The "Gloria in Excelsis" is the Hymn sung by the Angels on the morning of Christmas Day: "Glory to God in the Highest and on earth peace, goodwill towards men."

28. *Do we use these Hymns of the Angels?*

We use these Hymns of the Angels in the Mass or Holy Eucharist.

29. *Did Angels ever wait upon Our Lord?*

Yes, Angels waited upon Our Lord at the Nativity, the Flight, the Temptation, the Agony, the Resurrection and the Ascension.

30. *Did any of the Angels sin?*

Yes: Lucifer and other Angels sinned.

31. *Why did these Angels sin?*

These Angels sinned because they did not wish to accept God's will.

32. *What was the result of their sin?*

The result of their sin was that Lucifer and his followers were driven from Heaven and were cast into Hell.

33. *How do we now speak of Lucifer and the bad Angels?*

We now speak of Lucifer and the bad Angels as the Devil and the Powers of Evil.

34. *Do we become Angels when we die?*

No, we do not become Angels when we die, but if saved we become Saints.

III. The Creation of Man and Woman

35. *Who did God make after the Angels?*

God made Man and Woman, Adam and Eve, after the Angels and placed them in the Garden of Eden.

36. *How did God make man?*

God made man from the dust of the ground, and breathed into him the breath of life and he became a living soul.

37. *Did God make Adam and Eve in His Image, after His Likeness?*

God made Adam and Eve in His Image, after His Likeness.

38. *What does this mean?*

This means that God gives to every one a soul.

39. *What is the soul?*

The soul is the spirit and mind: our immortal life.

40. *Why did God make man?*

God made man for His Honour and Glory and to give man everlasting life.

41. *Were Adam and Eve holy and innocent when God made them?*

Yes: Adam and Eve were holy and innocent when God made them.

42. *Could Adam and Eve choose between good and evil, to obey God or not?*

Yes, Adam and Eve could choose between good and evil, to obey God or not, because God gave them the power of free will.

43. *Who tempted Adam and Eve to disobey God?*

The Devil as a Serpent tempted Eve to disobey God and Eve then tempted Adam and both disobeyed God by eating of the fruit of the tree in the midst of the Garden.

44. *What do we call the sin and disobedience of Adam and Eve in eating of the fruit of the tree in the midst of the Garden?*

We call the sin and disobedience of Adam and Eve in eating of the fruit of the tree in the midst of the Garden the "Fall."

45. *What was the result of the "Fall"?*

The result of the "Fall" was that Adam and Eve were no longer holy and innocent and were driven from the Garden of Eden.

46. *What was another result of the "Fall"?*

Another result of the "Fall" of Adam and Eve was that disease, sorrow and death came into the world.

47. *What did God promise when Adam and Eve were driven from the Garden?*

God promised that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpent's head.

48. *What did God mean by this promise?*
God meant by this promise that His Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, would come to be the Saviour of the World.

49. *How was this promise fulfilled?*
This promise was fulfilled in the Son of God being conceived by the Holy Ghost and born of the Virgin Mary.

50. *How was Our Lord the Saviour of the world?*
Our Lord was the Saviour of the world because He died on the Cross and paid the penalty for man's sin.

IV. Sin and Grace

51. *What is sin?*
Sin is the transgression of the Law of God.

52. *Do we inherit sin from Adam and Eve?*
Yes, we inherit sin from Adam and Eve.

53. *What do we call this sin?*
We call this sin Original Sin.

54. *Is Original Sin forgiven?*
Original Sin is forgiven in Holy Baptism when our guilt is taken away but our weakened nature remains.

55. *What is Actual Sin?*
Actual Sin is sin which we ourselves commit.

56. *How do we commit sin?*
We commit sin by Thought, Word and Deed: the sin of Commission.

57. *Do we also sin by not doing right?*
Yes, we also sin by not doing right.

58. *What do we call this sin?*
We call this sin the sin of Omission.

59. *Is not all sin displeasing to God?*
Yes, all sin is displeasing to God.

60. *Are all sins the same?*
All sins are not the same: some are Mortal Sins, some are Venial Sins.

61. *What are Mortal Sins?*
Mortal Sins are sins grave in their nature and done willingly, knowingly and deliberately.

62. *What are Venial Sins?*
Venial Sins are little sins or those done thoughtlessly or carelessly.

63. *What is the result of Mortal Sin?*
The result of Mortal Sin is separation from God, the darkening of the mind and conscience, the loss of Divine Grace and everlasting punishment.

64. *What are the Seven Mortal Sins?*
The Seven Mortal Sins are Pride, Anger, Covetousness, Lust, Envy, Sloth and Gluttony.

65. *What is the cure for Mortal Sin?*
The cure for Mortal Sin is Repentance, through which by Confession and Absolution the Soul is restored to a state of grace.

66. *How do we show Repentance?*

We show Repentance by having in the heart Contrition, in the mouth Confession, and in the life Amendment.

67. *What is it that Contrition, Confession and Absolution do for the Soul?*

Contrition, Confession and Absolution restore the Soul to a state of Grace.

68. *Is being in a state of Grace generally necessary to salvation?*

Yes, being in a state of Grace is generally necessary to salvation.

69. *What is Grace?*

Grace is the sanctifying Power of God, and comes to us from Our Lord Jesus Christ.

70. *Why does Grace come from Our Lord Jesus Christ?*

Grace comes from Our Lord Jesus Christ because He is the Only Begotten of the Father full of grace and truth, Who by His Death and Passion opened the Kingdom of Heaven to all believers.

71. *Is Our Lord Alone without sin?*

Our Lord Alone is without sin.

72. *What is Habitual Grace?*

Habitual Grace is Grace abiding in the Soul, making one pleasing to God.

73. *What is Actual Grace?*
Actual Grace is Grace given for a special purpose.

74. *What are the chief means of Grace?*
The chief means of Grace are the Sacraments which we receive through the Holy Catholic Church.

V. The Church the Guardian of the Faith

75. *What is the Holy Catholic Church?*
The Holy Catholic Church is the Divine Institution of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Preserver of Truth, the Guide in Morals and the Dispenser of Grace.

76. *What do we mean by this?*
We mean by this that the Church holds and sets forth the Christian Religion.

77. *What do we call the Christian Religion?*
We call the Christian Religion the Catholic Faith or the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Church.

78. *Why do we call the Christian Religion the Catholic Faith?*
We call the Christian Religion the Catholic Faith because it is set forth by the Holy Catholic Church.

79. *How does the Church set forth the Catholic Faith?*
The Church sets forth the Catholic Faith in the Creed.

80. *What is the Creed?*

The Creed is the declaration of "the Faith once for all delivered to the Saints," as revealed by Our Lord, contained in the Scriptures and set forth by Authority of the Church.

VI. The Holy Mysteries

81. *Are not some of the Doctrines of the Faith called Holy Mysteries?*

Yes: some of the Doctrines of the Faith are called Holy Mysteries because they are beyond our understanding, since they teach us of God.

82. *What are some of the Holy Mysteries?*

Some of the Holy Mysteries are the Mystery of the Trinity, the Mystery of the Incarnation, the Mystery of the Redemption, the Mystery of the Resurrection, the Mystery of the Ascension and the Mystery of the Holy Ghost.

83. *How are some of the Holy Mysteries often set forth?*

Some of the Holy Mysteries are often set forth as the Five Joyful Mysteries, the Five Sorrowful Mysteries and the Five Glorious Mysteries.

84. *What are the Five Joyful Mysteries?*

The Five Joyful Mysteries are the Mysteries of the Incarnation of Our Lord: the Annunciation, the Visitation, the Nativity, the Presentation and the Finding of Christ in the Temple.

85. *What are the Five Sorrowful Mysteries?*

The Five Sorrowful Mysteries are the Mysteries of the Passion of Our Lord: the Agony, the Scourging, the Crowning with Thorns, the Carrying the Cross, the Crucifixion.

86. *What are the Five Glorious Mysteries?*

The Five Glorious Mysteries are the Mysteries of the Triumph of Our Lord: the Resurrection, the Ascension, the Descent of the Holy Ghost, the Church Triumphant and the Beatific Vision.

87. *Are not the Seven Sacraments also called Holy Mysteries?*

Yes, the Seven Sacraments are also called Holy Mysteries or Sacramental Mysteries.

88. *Why are the Seven Sacraments called Holy Mysteries or Sacramental Mysteries?*

The Seven Sacraments are called Holy Mysteries or Sacramental Mysteries because they are Divinely ordered means of giving God's Grace.

VII. The Mystery of the Trinity

89. *What is the Mystery of the Holy Trinity?*

The Mystery of the Holy Trinity is that there are Three Persons in One God.

90. *In the Holy Trinity are there Three distinct Persons but only One God?*

Yes: the Father is God, the Son is God, the Holy Ghost is God: there are not Three Gods but One God.

91. *Can you explain this more clearly?*

Yes. "The Father is the First Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Son is the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity, the Holy Ghost is the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity—yet they are not three Gods but One God, a Mystery beyond our understanding.

92. *Have all Three Persons equal Might, Majesty, Domination and Power?*

Yes: all Three Persons have equal Might, Majesty, Dominion and Power for "None is greater or less than another."

93. *Has God so taught us about Himself?*

God has so taught us about Himself through Jesus Christ, His Only Son.

94. *How do we sometimes speak of the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost?*

We sometimes speak of the Father, Who made us; the Son, Who redeemed us; the Holy Ghost, Who sanctifieth us.

VIII. The Mystery of the Incarnation

95. *What is the Mystery of the Incarnation?*

The Mystery of the Incarnation is that the Son of God became Man without ceasing to be God.

96. *How did Our Lord become Man without ceasing to be God?*

Our Lord became Man without ceasing to be God by being Conceived by the Holy Ghost and Born of the Virgin Mary.

97. *How do we speak of the Son of God?*
We speak of the Son of God as Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

98. *Is Our Lord both God and Man?*
Our Lord is both God and Man: "Perfect God of the Substance of the Father and Perfect Man of the Substance of His Mother."

99. *Is Our Lord One Person?*
Our Lord is One Person, the Second Person of the Blessed Trinity.

100. *Has Our Lord Two Whole and Perfect Natures: Divine and Human?*
Our Lord has Two Whole and Perfect Natures, Divine and Human.

101. *Was Our Lord always God?*
Our Lord was always God.

102. *Was Our Lord always Man?*
Our Lord was not always Man.

103. *When did Our Lord become Man?*
Our Lord became Man at the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

104. *Is Our Lord henceforth God and Man?*
Our Lord is henceforth God and Man.

105. *Why do we worship and adore Our Lord?*
We worship and adore Our Lord because He is God, Who became Incarnate for us.

106. *Why do we love and honour the Virgin Mary?*
We love and honour the Virgin Mary because she is the Mother of Our Lord.

107. *Do we reverence the Name of Jesus?*

We reverence the Name of Jesus, for the Scriptures say, "At the Name of Jesus every knee shall bow."

108. *Why is Our Lord called Jesus?*

Our Lord is called Jesus because He is Our Saviour Who saves us from our sins.

109. *Why is Our Lord called Christ?*

Our Lord is called Christ because He was anointed to be Prophet, Priest and King.

110. *How is Our Lord Prophet, Priest and King?*

Our Lord is Prophet, because He preached the the Gospel, Priest because He offered Himself a Sacrifice on the Cross, King because He is the Ruler of all things.

111. *Where and when was Our Lord Born?*

Our Lord was Born in Bethlehem on Christmas Day and was laid in a Manger.

112. *Was Our Lord worshipped in the Manger?*

Our Lord was worshipped in the Manger by Saint Mary, Saint Joseph and the Shepherds, and also by the Wise Men who came from the East and offered Him Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh.

113. *What did the offering of Gold, Incense and Myrrh confess?*

The Gold confessed that Our Lord was God, the Incense that He was Priest, the Myrrh that He was Man.

114. *Why do we give all Honour, Glory and Worship unto Our Lord?*

We give all Honour, Glory and Worship unto Our Lord because He is God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Perfect God and Perfect Man.

115. *Do we reverence Saint Mary as we do Our Lord?*

No, we do not reverence Saint Mary as we do Our Lord: we *worship and adore* Our Lord as God of God: we *honour and reverence* Saint Mary as "Blessed among Women."

116. *Why is Saint Mary "Blessed among Women?"*

Saint Mary is "Blessed among Women" because she was the Divinely chosen means of the Incarnation.

117. *Is it wrong not to give Saint Mary the honour due her as the Mother of Our Lord?*

Yes, it is very wrong not to give Mary the honour due her as the Mother of Our Lord.

118. *What is the "Hail Mary"?*

The "Hail Mary" is the prayer that comes from the Angelic salutation: "Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus; Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and in the hour of our death. Amen."

125. *Did Our Lord suffer before He was Crucified?*
Yes, Our Lord suffered before He was Crucified.

126. *How did Our Lord suffer?*
Our Lord suffered by being mocked, reviled, buffeted, spitted upon, stripped, scourged and falsely accused.

127. *How else did Our Lord suffer?*
Our Lord also suffered by being crowned with thorns and made to carry His Cross to Calvary.

128. *Under whom did Our Lord suffer?*
Our Lord suffered under Pontius Pilate.

129. *Had Our Lord's Sufferings and Death been predicted in the Bible?*
Our Lord's Sufferings and Death had been predicted in the Bible in the Psalms and the Prophets, and by ancient types.

130. *What were some types of the Crucifixion?*
Some types of the Crucifixion were the Scape Goat, the Passover Lamb, the Brazen Serpent, and the Smitten Rock.

131. *How and when did Our Lord die?*
Our Lord died on Good Friday, when He was nailed to the Cross on Calvary.

132. *Was Our Lord nailed between two thieves?*
Yes, Our Lord was nailed between two thieves.

133. *Did Our Lord speak from the Cross?*
Our Lord spake seven times from the Cross.

134. *Why did Our Lord die on the Cross?*

Our Lord died on the Cross as a Sacrifice for the sins of the whole world.

135. *What is Our Lord sometimes called?*

Our Lord is sometimes called "the Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world."

136. *Has Our Lord left us a way of pleading to God His Sacrifice of the Cross?*

Our Lord has left us a way of pleading to God His Sacrifice of the Cross, in the Mass or Holy Eucharist.

137. *What happened to Our Lord's Body and Soul when He died on the Cross?*

Our Lord's Body was taken down and placed in a new Tomb and His Soul descended into Hell.

138. *Do we mean that Our Lord descended into Hell the place of torment for the lost?*

No, we do not mean that Our Lord descended into the place of torment for the lost, which is "Gehenna," but that He went to the place of Departed Spirits, or Purgatory, called "Hades."

X. The Mystery of the Resurrection

139. *What is the Mystery of the Resurrection?*

The Mystery of the Resurrection is that on the third day Our Lord rose again from the dead in the same Body which was Born and Crucified.

140. *How did Our Lord rise again from the dead?*

Our Lord rose again from the dead in His Power as God, "with Whom all things are possible."

141. *How did Our Lord prove the reality of His Risen, Glorified Body?*

Our Lord proved the reality of His Risen, Glorified Body by sight, by touch and by taking food and by other infallible proofs.

142. *How long was Our Lord on earth after His Resurrection?*

Our Lord was forty days on earth after His Resurrection.

143. *Was Our Lord continually seen during these forty days?*

Our Lord was not continually seen during these forty days but only when He willed to be seen.

144. *Did Our Lord continue to teach His Apostles after He had Risen from the dead?*

Yes, Our Lord continued to teach His Apostles after He had Risen from the dead.

145. *What did Our Lord teach the Apostles?*

Our Lord taught His Apostles the things concerning the Kingdom of God, that is to say: the Doctrine, Discipline and Worship of the Church.

146. *Did Our Lord give the Apostles special powers or orders?*

Yes: Our Lord gave the Apostles special powers or orders called their Ministerial Commission.

147. *What was this Ministerial Commission?*

This Ministerial Commission was to go forth to the whole world and preach the Gospel, to baptize, to absolve from sin, and to offer the Holy Eucharist.

148. *Did Our Lord send the Apostles as God the Father sent Him?*

Yes: Our Lord said "As the Father hath sent me, so send I you."

149. *Have those in the Sacred Ministry now these same powers and orders?*

Yes: those in the Sacred Ministry now have these same powers and orders.

XI. The Mystery of the Ascension

150. *What is the Mystery of the Ascension?*

The Mystery of the Ascension is that Our Lord in His Risen, Glorified Body, ascended into Heaven.

151. *When did Our Lord in His Risen Glorified Body ascend into Heaven?*

Our Lord in His Risen Glorified Body ascended into Heaven on the fortieth day after Easter.

152. *What do we call this day?*

We call this day Ascension Day.

153. *Where is Our Lord in Heaven?*

Our Lord in Heaven sitteth on the Right Hand of God.

154. *Why was Our Lord, Who is God, exalted to the highest place in Heaven as Man?*

Our Lord, Who is God, was exalted to the highest place in Heaven as Man, in honour of the Incarnation and Redemption.

155. *Does Our Lord there pray for us?*

Yes, Our Lord there prays for us, "for He ever liveth to make intercession for us."

XII. The Holy Ghost

156. *Who is the Holy Ghost?*

The Holy Ghost is the Third Person of the Blessed Trinity, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified.

157. *Is the Holy Ghost equal to the Father and the Son?*

The Holy Ghost is equal to the Father and the Son.

158. *Who sent the Holy Ghost?*

Our Lord Jesus Christ sent the Holy Ghost.

159. *When did Our Lord Jesus Christ send the Holy Ghost to the Apostles?*

Our Lord Jesus Christ sent the Holy Ghost to the Apostles on Pentecost or Whitsunday.

160. *How did the Holy Ghost come down upon the Apostles on Pentecost or Whitsunday?*

The Holy Ghost came down upon the Apostles on Pentecost or Whitsunday like tongues of fire.

161. *Why did Our Lord send the Holy Ghost?*

Our Lord sent the Holy Ghost to guide the Apostles and to abide with the Church.

162. *Will the Holy Ghost always abide with the Church?*

Yes: the Holy Ghost will always abide with the Church.

163. *By what names is the Holy Ghost sometimes called?*

The Holy Ghost is sometimes called the "Holy Spirit," the "Holy Advocate," the "Holy Comforter" and the "Lord and Giver of Life."

164. *What is the work of the Holy Ghost?*

The work of the Holy Ghost is to lead us into all truth and to convince us of sin, of righteousness and of judgment.

165. *When is the Holy Ghost specially given?*

The Holy Ghost is specially given at Baptism, Confirmation and Ordination.

166. *What is the Sevenfold Gift of the Holy Ghost?*

The Sevenfold Gift of the Holy Ghost is the "Spirit of Wisdom and Understanding, the Spirit of Counsel and Ghostly Strength, the Spirit of Knowledge and True Godliness and the Spirit of Holy Fear."

XIII. The Church

167. *What is the Church?*
The Church is the mystical body of Christ, His Divine Institution.

168. *Is there only One True Church?*
There is only One True Church.

169. *What is the True Church called?*
The True Church is called the "One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church," or "The Holy Catholic Church."

170. *What are the marks of the One, True Church?*
The marks of the One, True Church are visibly the Ministry, the Word and the Sacraments, and invisibly the mystical union of all true believers with Christ their Head.

171. *How is the Church Holy, Catholic and Apostolic?*
The Church is Holy because her Head, her Doctrine, her Discipline, her Worship are holy; Catholic because for all persons who accept the true religion, and Apostolic because she holds "the Faith once for all delivered to the Saints," and hands down her heritage in the Apostolic Succession.

172. *Is the Anglican Communion, or the Eastern Communion, or the Roman Communion the Catholic Church?*
The Anglican Communion, the Eastern Communion and the Roman Communion are only parts of the Catholic Church, which includes all three.

173. *What are persons called who accept the Authority of the Church with her Doctrine, Discipline and Worship?*

Persons who accept the Authority of the Church with her Doctrine, Discipline and Worship are called "Catholics."

174. *How do we speak of Christians who do not accept the Authority of the Church with her Doctrine, Discipline and Worship?*

We speak of Christians who do not accept the Authority of the Church with her Doctrine, Discipline and Worship as "Protestants," or those who follow "false doctrine, heresy and schism."

175. *Should not all persons accept the Authority of the Church, in Doctrine, Discipline and Worship?*

All persons should accept the Authority of the Church, in Doctrine, Discipline and Worship.

176. *Should members of the Anglican Communion or "Episcopal Church" be called "Protestants"?*

No: Members of the Anglican Communion or "Episcopal Church" should not be called "Protestants," for since they hold the "Faith once for all delivered to the Saints" and accept the Church with her Doctrine, Discipline and Worship they are "Catholics."

177. *Does not the Church include both the Living and the Dead?*

Yes: the Church includes both the Living and the Dead: "The Church Militant" those on earth, "The Church Expectant" those in the place of departed Spirits, or Purgatory, "The Church Triumphant" those in glory in Heaven.

178. *Does the One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church alone offer full measure of grace and blessing?*

Yes: the One Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church alone offers full measure of grace and blessing as she only has the real Ministry and the real Sacraments.

179. *What is the Communion of Saints?*

The Communion of Saints is the union of the living and the dead with Christ their Lord.

XIV. The Four Last Things

180. *What are the Four Last Things?*

The Four Last Things are Death, Judgment, Heaven and Hell.

181. *What is Death?*

Death is the end of earthly life, when the body sleeps until its Resurrection at the Last Day.

182. *Do our bodies rise at the Last Day?*

Yes: our bodies rise at the Last Day, to go into Life Everlasting.

183. *What is the Life of the world to come?*
The Life of the world to come is Everlasting Glory in Heaven or Everlasting Punishment in Hell.

184. *How do we know of the existence of Heaven and Hell?*
We know of the existence of Heaven and Hell, from the Word of God and from reason and conscience.

185. *What becomes of the Soul at death?*
The Soul at death is called for judgment before God.

186. *What is this judgment called?*
This judgment is called "The Particular Judgment" which decides our final state in Heaven or Hell.

187. *What happens when the Soul is judged?*
If the Soul is "lost" it goes to Hell, or if "saved" it goes to the Place of Departed Spirits or Purgatory to be prepared for Heaven.

188. *What is the Last Judgment?*
The Last Judgment is that upon the bodies when they rise at the Last Day, to be united to the Souls in Heaven or Hell, according to the Particular Judgment at Death.

189. *What do the Scriptures tell us concerning Heaven and Hell?*
The Scriptures tell us that in Heaven there is everlasting joy in the Presence of God and the Holy Angels, and in Hell there is everlasting torment with the Devil and Lost Souls.

190. *How may we assure ourselves of gaining Heaven?*

We may assure ourselves of gaining Heaven by living for the Glory of God and dying in the Communion of the Catholic Church.

191. *Why does God punish the wicked with Everlasting Punishment in Hell?*

God punishes the wicked with Everlasting Punishment in Hell because the wicked will not repent and turn to God to be saved.

192. *Who then only are lost?*

Those only are lost who to the end refuse to love and obey God and use His Grace and so dying in sin, without Faith, Love and Repentance, they are responsible for their own condemnation.

XV. The Sacraments

193. *What is a Sacrament?*

A Sacrament is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace.

194. *How many Sacraments are there?*

There are Seven Sacraments: Holy Absolution, Holy Baptism, Holy Confirmation, Holy Communion, Holy Matrimony, Holy Orders and Holy Unction.

195. *What is Sacramental Grace?*

Sacramental Grace is the help given for the special purpose for which each Sacrament was instituted.

196. *Can we see the inward and spiritual grace of a Sacrament?*

No: we cannot see the inward and spiritual grace of a Sacrament, but only the outward and visible sign.

197. *Is Grace always given in the Sacraments?*

Grace is always given in the Sacraments, to those who receive them worthily.

198. *What is Sanctifying Grace?*

Sanctifying Grace is the help given by God to make us good and holy.

199. *Which are the Sacraments which give Sanctifying Grace?*

The Sacraments which give Sanctifying Grace are Holy Baptism and Holy Absolution, which take away sin, (which is death to the soul) and restore us to God's favour.

200. *Which are the Sacraments which increase Sanctifying Grace?*

The Sacraments which increase Sanctifying Grace are Holy Confirmation, Holy Communion, Holy Matrimony, Holy Orders and Holy Unction, when worthily received.

201. *What is the consequence of receiving a Sacrament unworthily?*

The consequence of receiving a Sacrament unworthily is committing sacrilege which brings the punishment of God.

202. *Which Sacraments can only be received once?*

The Sacraments which can only be received once are Holy Baptism, Holy Confirmation and Holy Orders, which give a certain mark or "character" to the soul.

203. *Which Sacraments can be received more than once?*

The Sacraments which can be received more than once are Holy Absolution and Holy Communion which should be received regularly and frequently; Holy Unction when one is very ill and Holy Matrimony when one is to be married.

XVI. Holy Baptism

204. *What is Holy Baptism?*

Holy Baptism is the Sacrament of Regeneration or a new birth in Christ.

205. *What does Holy Baptism do?*

Holy Baptism remits sin and makes one "a member of Christ, the Child of God and an Inheritor of the Kingdom of Heaven."

206. *What does this mean?*

This means that the person receiving Holy Baptism is made a member of the Holy Catholic Church and inherits all of its blessings.

207. *What sin does Holy Baptism remit?*

Holy Baptism remits original sin, or that which comes from Adam and Eve, and also any actual sin done before Baptism.

208. *How is Holy Baptism given?*

Holy Baptism is given by the pouring on of water in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost with the intention of ministering this Sacrament as Christ ordained.

209. *Is not the person who receives Holy Baptism signed with the Cross and given a name?*

Yes: the person who receives Holy Baptism is signed with the Cross and given a name.

210. *What is this name called?*

This name is called our Baptismal or Christian name.

211. *Why are there godfathers and godmothers or "sponsors" at Holy Baptism?*

There are godfathers and godmothers or "sponsors" at Holy Baptism to make the promises and vows in the name of the child baptized.

212. *What are the three Baptismal Promises or Vows?*

The three Baptismal Promises or Vows are: First, that I should renounce the Devil and all his works, the pomps and vanity of this wicked world and all the sinful lusts of the flesh; Secondly, that I should believe all the Articles of the Christian Faith; and Thirdly, that I should keep God's holy will and commandments and walk in the same all the days of my life.

213. *What is the duty of the godfathers and godmothers?*

The duty of the godfathers and the godmothers is to see that the child is brought up in the love and fear of God and in the practice of religion, should the parents die or neglect their duty.

214. *Is not Holy Baptism generally necessary to salvation?*

Yes: Holy Baptism is generally necessary to salvation for our Lord said, "Except ye are born of the Water and the Spirit ye cannot enter the Kingdom of Heaven."

215. *What happens if one dies without Holy Baptism?*

If one dies without Holy Baptism through no fault of his own, it is thought that an infant has the "baptism of desire" or is baptized by the Angels, and that an adult who has lived a good life will have what is called "natural beatitude."

216. *Who is the usual minister of Baptism?*

A Priest is the usual minister of Baptism but in case of necessity a Lay person may baptize.

217. *In case of such necessity what should the person who ministers Holy Baptism do and say?*

In case of such necessity, the person who ministers Holy Baptism should pour water on the head of the one to be Baptized and say: "I baptize thee in the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost."

218. *Should not one who is Baptized be very early brought to be Confirmed?*

Yes: one who is Baptized should be very early brought to be Confirmed.

XVII. Holy Confirmation

219. *What is Holy Confirmation?*

Holy Confirmation is the seven-fold gift of the Holy Ghost, conferred by the "Laying on of Hands" of the Bishop.

220. *What is the seven-fold gift of the Holy Ghost?*

The seven-fold gift of the Holy Ghost is the "spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength, the spirit of knowledge and true godliness and spirit of holy fear."

221. *Do not those who are Confirmed renew their Baptismal Vows?*

Those who are Confirmed renew their Baptismal Vows of Faith, Love and Repentance.

222. *What is the benefit of this gift?*

The benefit of this gift is Mental and Moral, as God the Holy Ghost guides the soul.

223. *What is the Spirit of Wisdom?*

The Spirit of Wisdom is that which makes us seek to please God.

224. *What is the Spirit of Understanding?*

The Spirit of Understanding is that which makes us know better the mysteries of our Faith and Religion.

225. *What is the Spirit of Counsel?*

The Spirit of Counsel is that which warns us to do right on peril of losing our souls.

226. *What is the Spirit of Ghostly Strength?*

The Spirit of Ghostly Strength is that which gives us spiritual power to resist evil.

227. *What is the Spirit of Knowledge?*

The Spirit of Knowledge is that which guides us into all truth and makes us know the will of God.

228. *What is the Spirit of True Godliness?*

The Spirit of True Godliness is that which fills us with the love of God so that we keep His Commandments and show forth the "beauty of holiness."

229. *What is the Spirit of Holy Fear?*

The Spirit of Holy Fear is that which keeps us from sin not because we dread punishment but because we love God and do not want to grieve Him.

230. *Is it a sin to neglect Confirmation?*

Yes: it is a sin to neglect Confirmation, as such neglect turns from God's call and exposes one more easily to temptation.

231. *Is preparation necessary for Confirmation?*

Yes: the preparation of the mind and soul is necessary for Confirmation.

232. *What is the preparation necessary for the mind?*

The preparation necessary for the mind is instruction in the Christian Religion.

233. *What is the preparation necessary for the soul?*

The preparation necessary for the soul is to be taught the Love of God and to be in a state of Grace.

234. *How is one to be Confirmed in a state of Grace?*

One to be Confirmed is in a state of Grace after making a good and true Confession and receiving Absolution.

235. *What is the great joy and privilege which Confirmation brings?*

The great joy and privilege which Confirmation brings is that of Holy Communion.

XVIII. Holy Absolution

236. *What is the Sacrament of Holy Absolution or Penance?*

The Sacrament of Holy Absolution or Penance is the Forgiveness of sins committed after Baptism.

237. *How is this Forgiveness of Sins given?*

This Forgiveness of Sins is given by God through the Absolution of the Priest, to whom God "hath given power and commandment to declare and pronounce to His people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins."

238. *How do we know that God forgives sins through the Absolution of the Priest?*

We know that God forgives sins through the Absolution of the Priest because Our Lord said to His Apostles: "Receive ye the Holy Ghost. Whosoever sins ye remit they are remitted unto them, and whosoever sins ye retain they are retained."

239. *Is not the Priest the Minister and Ambassador of God, to speak in Christ's Name?*

Yes: the Priest is the Minister and Ambassador of God to speak in Christ's Name, for He says, "As the Father hath sent Me, so send I you."

240. *Should not all persons go to Confession?*

Yes: all persons should go to Confession.

241. *Must not one be truly penitent to receive Absolution, and go in Faith, Love and Humility?*

Yes: one must be truly penitent to receive Absolution, and must go in Faith, Love and Humility.

242. *How does one know that he is truly penitent?*

One knows that he is truly penitent when he has "in the heart Contrition, in the mouth Confession and in the life Amendment."

243. *What is the benefit of Confession and Absolution or Penance?*

The benefit of Confession and Absolution or Penance is the spiritual cleansing of the soul in the Precious Blood of Jesus, the gift of sanctifying grace, the personal comfort of pardon and the godly counsel of the Priest.

244. *Must not one truly and sincerely confess all Mortal Sins?*

Yes: one must truly and sincerely confess all Mortal Sins.

245. *Is it not grave sacrilege intentionally to conceal a Mortal Sin?*

It is grave sacrilege intentionally to conceal a Mortal Sin and it incurs God's severe punishment.

246. *Do we always know when in Mortal Sin?*

No: we do not always know when in Mortal Sin, and so we should confess all sins, even those we think are but Venial Sins.

247. *Does Holy Absolution or the Forgiveness of Sins by a Priest take away the penalty of sin?*

Holy Absolution or the Forgiveness of Sins by a Priest takes away the penalty of sin, that is the eternal punishment which sin incurs.

248. *Does God sometimes allow the earthly punishment to remain?*

Yes: God sometimes allows the earthly punishment to remain.

249. *Has God in His mercy given us a means of making satisfaction for this earthly punishment?*

God in His mercy has given us a means of making satisfaction for this earthly punishment by Special Prayer, Fasting, Almsgiving, and Good Works.

250. *How should we go to Confession?*

We should go to Confession regularly and frequently, after examination of conscience and with an earnest desire to be better, humbly listening to the counsel of the Priest and faithfully doing the penance given.

XIX. Holy Communion

251. *What is the Holy Communion?*

The Holy Communion is the Sacrament of the Body and Blood of Christ, and the Memorial of the Sacrifice of the Cross.

252. *Who instituted the Holy Communion?*

Our Lord instituted the Holy Communion when taking Bread and Wine, He consecrated them and gave them to His Disciples saying: "This is My Body . . . This is My Blood . . . Do this in remembrance of Me."

253. *Why is the Holy Communion a Sacrament?*

The Holy Communion is a Sacrament because under the forms of Bread and Wine, Our Lord gives His Body and Blood unto Everlasting Life.

254. *Why is the Holy Communion a Sacrifice?*

The Holy Communion is a Sacrifice because it is the Memorial of Our Lord's Death on the Cross where He was Priest and Victim and shed His Blood for us, which offering He presents in the Sacrifice of the Altar.

255. *Did not our Lord give power and commandment to the Apostles to consecrate Bread and Wine to be His Body and Blood and to offer this Holy Sacrifice?*

Yes: Our Lord gave power and commandment to the Apostles to consecrate Bread and Wine to be His Body and Blood and to offer this Holy Sacrifice, which same power and commandment is given to Priests today.

256. *What are the outward, visible signs in the Holy Communion?*

The outward, visible signs in the Holy Communion are Bread and Wine.

257. *What are the inward, spiritual Gifts in the Holy Communion?*

The inward, spiritual Gifts in the Holy Communion are the Body and Blood of Christ, Really and Objectively Present after a Spiritual, Mystical and Supernatural manner.

258. *What is the benefit of receiving the Holy Communion?*

The benefit of receiving the Holy Communion is the strengthening and refreshing of our souls by The Body and Blood of Christ, the Increase of Grace, the Pledge of Everlasting Life, and Union with God in Christ.

259. *When do the Bread and Wine become Our Lord's Body and Blood?*

The Bread and Wine become Our Lord's Body and Blood when the Priest says Our Lord's Words of Consecration.

260. *Do we receive Our Lord Whole and Entire both under the form of Bread and under the form of Wine?*

Yes: we receive Our Lord Whole and Entire both under the form of Bread and under the form of Wine.

261. *Why is Our Lord to be worshipped and adored in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar?*

Our Lord is to be worshipped and adored in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar because He is Our God and Saviour.

262. *What is the Holy Communion also called?*

The Holy Communion is also called "The Holy Eucharist," "The Holy Mysteries," "The Sacrifice of the Altar," "The Blessed Sacrament" and the "Mass."

263. *Does one in mortal sin receive the Body and Blood of Christ?*

Yes: one in mortal sin receives the Body and Blood of Christ but does not receive the benefits and puts his soul in great peril.

264. *Is it not a very great sin to stay away from Holy Communion?*

Yes: it is a very great sin to stay away from Holy Communion.

265. *How do we rightly receive the Holy Communion?*

We rightly receive the Holy Communion when we come in Faith, Love and Repentance, Adoration and Worship, and after self examination make our Confession and receive Absolution.

266. *Should we receive the Holy Communion fasting?*

Yes: we should receive the Holy Communion fasting.

267. *What do we mean by receiving the Holy Communion fasting?*

We mean by receiving the Holy Communion fasting that we should take nothing to eat and nothing to drink from twelve o'clock the night before.

268. *Why should we receive the Holy Communion fasting?*

We should receive the Holy Communion fasting to love, honour and reverence Our Lord in the Sacrament and to follow the universal rule and practice of the Church.

269. *Is not the Celebration of the Mass or Holy Eucharist the greatest Act of Worship of the Church?*

Yes: the Celebration of the Mass or Holy Eucharist is the greatest Act of Worship of the Church, at which we should be present every Sunday and Holy Day unless prevented by grave cause.

XX. Holy Order

270. *What is Holy Order?*

Holy Order is the Sacrament whereby those called by God to the Sacred Ministry are ordained Bishops, Priests or Deacons.

271. *What is the work of the Sacred Ministry sometimes called?*

The work of the Sacred Ministry is sometimes called "The Cure of Souls."

272. *What is the Office and Work of a Priest?*

The Office and Work of a Priest is to minister the Word and Sacraments in Christ's Name.

273. *What does this mean?*

This means that the Priest is to Preach the Gospel, to consecrate and offer the Holy Eucharist, to absolve and bless in the Name of the Lord, and to watch over our souls as those who must give account.

274. *Are we not bidden in Scripture to reverence very highly those in the Sacred Ministry?*

We are bidden in Scripture to reverence very highly those in the Sacred Ministry, "for their work's sake," for they are "the Ambassadors of God," who "speak in Christ's Stead."

275. *What is the special office of a Bishop?*

The special office of a Bishop is to confirm, ordain, consecrate and rule in the Church.

276. *How is the Sacred Ministry continued?*

The Sacred Ministry is continued by the "laying on of hands" of the Bishop, thus handing down and continuing the powers and character given by Our Lord, through the Apostolic Succession.

277. *What does the Bishop say at the Ordination of a Priest?*

The Bishop says at the Ordination of a Priest: "Receive the Holy Ghost for the Office and Work of a Priest in the Church of God, now committed unto thee by the Imposition of our hands. Whose sins thou dost forgive, they are forgiven; and whose sins thou dost retain they are retained. And be thou a faithful Dispenser of the Word of God and of His Holy Sacraments, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Amen."

278. *Why should a Priest be called "Father"?*

A Priest should be called "Father" to show his spiritual relationship and authority, as we speak of a physician as "Doctor" and a ship commander as "Captain."

XXI. Holy Matrimony

279. *What is Holy Matrimony?*

Holy Matrimony is the mystical union of a Christian man and a Christian woman as Husband and Wife.

280. *Can the union of two persons in Holy Matrimony be ended by Divorce?*

No: the union of two persons in Holy Matrimony cannot be ended by Divorce, "for those whom God hath joined together let no man put asunder."

281. *What is the purpose of Holy Matrimony?*

The purpose of Holy Matrimony is to sanctify the love of husband and wife, to give grace to help and comfort each other and to bring up children in the nurture and fear of the Lord.

282. *To receive the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony worthily is it necessary to be in a state of grace?*

Yes: to receive the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony worthily it is necessary to be in a state of grace.

283. *Should members of the Church marry those of a different Faith?*

No: members of the Church should not marry those of a different Faith.

284. *How does the Church warn us to be careful about entering upon Marriage?*

The Church says: "it is not by any to be entered into unadvisedly or lightly but reverently, discreetly, advisedly, soberly and in the fear of God."

285. *How may persons best prepare for Holy Matrimony?*

Persons may best prepare for Holy Matrimony by Confession and Communion.

286. *When should Marriages not be solemnized?*

Marriages should not be solemnized from Advent Sunday until eight days after the Epiphany, from Septuagesima until eight days after Easter, or from Rogation Sunday until Trinity Sunday.

XXII. Holy Unction

287. *What is Holy Unction?*

Holy Unction is the Anointing of the sick with Oil blessed by the Bishop, as an aid to recovery or a preparation for death.

288. *Is Holy Unction ordered in the Bible?*

Yes: Holy Unction is ordered in the Bible, in the Epistle of Saint James.

289. *What is the benefit of Holy Unction?*

The benefit of Holy Unction is remission of sin, increase of grace, comfort in sickness, and if it be God's will, restoration to health.

XXIII. The Commandments

290. *How many Commandments are there?*

There are Ten Commandments.

291. *Which are the Ten Commandments?*

The same which God spake in the twentieth Chapter of Exodus, saying, I am the Lord thy God, who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.

292. I. Thou shalt have none other gods but Me.

II. Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down to them nor worship them; for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, and visit the sins of the fathers upon the children, unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate Me; and show mercy unto thousands of them that love Me and keep My commandments.

III. Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless, that taketh His Name in vain.

IV. Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath-day. Six days shalt thou labour, and do all that thou hast to do; but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God. In it thou shalt do no manner of work; thou, and thy son, and thy daughter, thy man-servant, and thy maid-servant, thy cattle, and the stranger that is within thy gates. For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the seventh day, and hallowed it.

V. Honour thy father and thy mother; that thy days may be long in the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

VI. Thou shalt do no murder.

VII. Thou shalt not commit adultery.

VIII. Thou shalt not steal.

IX. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

X. Thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbour's wife, nor his servant, nor his maid, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is his.

293. *What do the Ten Commandments teach?*

The Ten Commandments teach: (1) Religion, (2) Worship, (3) Reverence, (4) Consecration, (5) Love, (6) Discipline, (7) Purity, (8) Honesty, (9) Truth, (10) Contentment.

294. *Were not these Ten Commandments written on Two Tables of Stone?*

Yes: These Ten Commandments were written on Two Tables of Stone.

295. *How were the Ten Commandments divided?*

They were supposed to have been divided: the first Four Commandments on one table of stone to teach our Duty towards God; the other Six Commandments on the other table of stone to teach our Duty towards our Neighbour.

296. *What is thy Duty towards God?*

My duty towards God is to believe in Him, to fear Him, and to love Him with all my heart, with all my mind, with all my soul, and with all my strength: to worship Him, to give Him thanks: to put my whole trust in Him: to call upon Him: to honour His holy Name and His Word: and to serve Him truly all the days of my life.

297. *What is thy duty towards thy Neighbour?*

My duty towards my Neighbour is to love him as myself, and to do to all men as I would they should do unto me: to love, honour, and succour my father and mother: to honour and obey the civil authority: to submit myself to all my governors, teachers, spiritual pastors and masters: to order myself lowly and reverently to all my betters: to hurt nobody by word or deed: to be true and just in all my dealings: to bear no malice nor hatred in my heart: to keep my hands from picking and stealing, and my tongue from evil speaking, lying, and slandering: to keep my body in temperance, soberness, and chastity: Not to covet nor desire other men's goods; but to learn and labour truly to get mine own living, and to do my duty in that state of life unto which it shall please God to call me.

XXIV. Christian Virtues

298. *What are the Three Theological Virtues?*

The Three Theological Virtues are Faith, Hope and Charity.

299. *What is Faith?*

Faith is that Virtue by which we believe and hold that which God has taught and revealed.

300. *What is Hope?*

Hope is that Virtue by which we trust in God and His promises and look for Everlasting Life.

301. *What is Charity?*
Charity is that Virtue by which we love God with all our heart and mind and soul and strength and our neighbour as ourself.

302. *What are the Four Cardinal Virtues?*
The Four Cardinal Virtues are Prudence, Justice, Temperance and Fortitude.

XXV. Christian Duties

303. *What are the Three Christian Duties?*
The Three Christian Duties are Prayer, Fasting and Almsgiving.

304. *What is Prayer?*
Prayer is the lifting up of our minds and hearts to God in worship, adoration and thanksgiving, in seeking pardon for our sins and in asking for what we need for ourselves and others.

305. *When should Prayer regularly be made to God?*
Prayer should regularly be made to God every morning, noon and night and specially on Sundays and Holy Days and in times of trial, danger and temptation.

306. *How should we pray?*
We should pray kneeling on our knees.

307. *What should we say?*
We should say the Lord's Prayer, the Hail Mary, the Gloria Patri and the Creed, and make Acts of Faith, Love and Repentance and add our personal devotions and intercessions.

308. *Should we not be present at Mass every Sunday and Holy Day for Prayer, Worship or Communion, unless prevented by grave cause?*

Yes: we should be present at Mass every Sunday and Holy Day for Prayer, Worship or Communion, unless prevented by grave cause.

309. *What is Fasting?*

Fasting is going without food or doing with less food.

310. *Why should we fast?*

We should Fast in order to follow the example and command of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and to obey the rule of the Church so that we may arouse and deepen our spiritual life.

311. *When specially should we Fast?*

We specially should fast during Lent, and should keep from eating meat on Fridays and on other days when the Church orders and should also be fasting when receiving the Holy Communion.

312. *What is Almsgiving?*

Almsgiving is contributing to the support of the Church and of the poor.

313. *What does God tell us as regards Almsgiving?*

God tells us as regards Almsgiving that when possible we should give to God one tenth of all that we receive.

314. *Is it not a grievous sin not to give to the best of our ability to the support of the Church and of the poor?*

It is a grievous sin not to give to the best of our ability to the support of the Church and of the poor.

315. *Does not God promise to bless those who give gladly?*

Yes: God promises to bless those who give gladly for He has said, "God loveth a cheerful giver." "For so gatherest thyself a good reward."

316. *What are the Four Church Duties?*

The Four Church Duties are: (1) to keep the Fasts and Festivals of the Church; (2) to follow the Commands and Ceremonies of the Church; (3) to attend Public Worship; (4) to receive the Holy Communion.

317. *What are the Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy?*

The Seven Spiritual Works of Mercy are: (1) to instruct the ignorant; (2) to counsel the doubting; (3) to correct offenders; (4) to comfort the afflicted; (5) to endure injury; (6) to forgive wrong; (7) and to pray for others.

318. *What are the Seven Corporal Works of Mercy?*

The Seven Corporal Works of Mercy are: (1) to feed the hungry; (2) to clothe the naked; (3) to shelter the stranger; (4) to bury the dead; (5) to visit the sick; (6) to help prisoners and (7) to visit the widows and fatherless in affliction.

319. *What are the Twelve Fruits of the Spirit?*

The Twelve Fruits of the Spirit are Love, Joy, Peace, Longsuffering, Gentleness, Goodness, Truth, Meekness, Patience, Modesty, Temperance and Chastity.

XXVI. The Bible

320. *What is the Bible?*

The Bible is the Word of God.

321. *How was the Bible written?*

The Bible was written by holy men of old under the Inspiration of God the Holy Ghost.

322. *How is the Bible divided?*

The Bible is divided into The Old Testament, The New Testament and the Apocrypha.

323. *Do we fully understand all of the Bible?*

No: we do not fully understand all of the Bible.

324. *How should we read the Bible?*

We should read the Bible with faith, love, humility and devotion, hearing God speak to us.

325. *How is the Bible used in the Services of the Church?*

The Bible is used in the Services of the Church, in the Lessons from the Old and New Testaments, and the Psalter which form part of the Daily Offices, and in the Epistles and Gospels which form part of the Mass.

326. *Which part of the Bible is given special honour in the use of the Church?*

The part of the Bible which is given special honour in the use of the Church is the Holy Gospel, the record of Our Lord's Life and Words.

327. *Should we not read a little of the Bible daily?*

Yes: we should read a little of the Bible daily, especially the Gospels, the Psalms and the book of Genesis.

328. *What are the five Books of Moses?*

The five Books of Moses are Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.

329. *What do these Books tell us?*

These Books tell us of the creation of the world, of the lives of the Patriarchs and of God's relations with His chosen people.

330. *What Books follow these in the Bible?*

The Books that follow these in the Bible are the Historical, Poetical and Prophetical Books.

331. *Who were the four greater Prophets?*

The four greater Prophets were Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel and Daniel.

332. *Which are the Poetical Books?*

The Poetical Books are Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes and the Song of Solomon.

333. *Did not the Psalms and Prophets foretell many events in the life of Christ?*

Yes: the Psalms and the Prophets foretold many events in the life of Christ.

334. *Which are the Four Gospels?*

The Four Gospels are Saint Matthew, Saint Mark, Saint Luke and Saint John.

335. *What are the Epistles?*

The Epistles are Letters to the early Christians and were written by Saint James, Saint John, Saint Jude, Saint Paul and Saint Peter.

336. *What is the Book of Revelation?*

The Book of Revelation is the Vision of Saint John in the Isle of Patmos.

XXVII. The Prayer Book

337. *What is the Prayer Book?*

The Prayer Book is that which contains the chief Rites and Ceremonies of the Church.

338. *What are Rites and Ceremonies?*

Rites and Ceremonies are the Forms and Services used in the Worship of God and in the Ministration of the Sacraments.

339. *Why are Rites and Ceremonies used?*

Rites and Ceremonies are used for the Glory of God and that "all things may be done decently and in order."

340. *Is Public Worship a matter of Church order and not of private judgment?*

Yes: Public Worship is a matter of Church order and not of private judgment.

353. *What does "Signing the Cross" mean?*

"Signing the Cross" means that we confess ourselves as Christians and not ashamed of "Jesus Christ and Him Crucified."

354. *Do we say anything at Signing the Cross?*

Yes: at Signing the Cross we say "In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost."

355. *Do we always say these words at Signing the Cross?*

No: we do not always say these words at Signing the Cross, but generally *only* before the Service or Sermon.

356. *At what other times do we Sign the Cross?*

The other times when we Sign the Cross are: in the Creed, in the Blessing, in the Gloria in Excelsis, at Absolution and before and after Communion.

357. *Does not Signing the Cross show the Love of God?*

Yes: Signing the Cross shows the Love of God for it reminds us of how Christ died for us and confesses that we would love God with all our heart and mind and soul and strength.

358. *Should not all persons Sign the Cross?*

All persons should Sign the Cross as a Confession of Faith, an Act of Devotion and as Blessing their bodies for the Resurrection Day.

XXVIII. The Church and Its Appointments

359. *What do we call a Church?*

We call a Church the House of God or the Lord's Holy Temple.

360. *How is a Church usually divided?*

A Church is usually divided into the Nave where the people are, the Chancel where the Clergy and Choir are and the Sanctuary where the Altar is.

361. *What is the Rood Screen?*

The Rood Screen is that which separates the Chancel from the Nave, having above the Screen the Rood-beam with the Holy Rood or Crucifix and sometimes additional Figures of Saint Mary and Saint John and other of the Saints.

362. *What is the Altar?*

The Altar is the Holy Table or the Place where the Holy Communion or Mass is celebrated.

363. *What is the Reredos?*

The Reredos is the carved Screen back of the Altar.

364. *Do we genuflect before the Altar?*

We genuflect before the Altar when the Blessed Sacrament is there.

365. *If the Blessed Sacrament is not there how do we reverence the Altar?*

If the Blessed Sacrament is not there we reverence the Altar by bowing or courtesying to it.

366. *Why do we reverence the Altar if the Blessed Sacrament is not there?*

We reverence the Altar if the Blessed Sacrament is not there because there the Mass is said and because it is the most holy place in Church, for which the Church is really built.

367. *Why do we have a Crucifix or Cross?*

We have a Crucifix or Cross to show how Our Lord died and to arouse our Faith, Love and Devotion.

368. *Why do we have Candles or Lights?*

We have Candles or Lights to show that Our Lord was the Light of the World.

369. *Why do we place Flowers on the Altar?*

We place Flowers on the Altar in honour of Our Lord and to show forth the "beauty of holiness."

370. *Why do we use Incense?*

We use Incense because it tells of the Merits of Christ and the Prayers of the Saints and because God says: "In every place Incense shall be offered unto My Name."

371. *What are the Eucharistic or Mass Vestments?*

The Eucharistic or Mass Vestments are those used by the Priest when celebrating the Holy Communion.

372. *Why does the Priest wear these Eucharistic or Mass Vestments?*

The Priest wears these Eucharistic or Mass Vestments to show forth the Passion of Our Lord, Who wore similar vestments on Good Friday.

373. *What is a Procession?*

A Procession is the passing of the Clergy and Choir through the Aisles of the Church in a Ceremonial way, from and back to the Altar, usually with Crucifix, Incense and Banners and singing or chanting.

374. *What does a Procession symbolize?*

A Procession symbolizes the Journey of the Soul, following Jesus.

375. *What is the Font?*

The Font is that which holds the Water used at Holy Baptism.

376. *What are the Stations of the Cross?*

The Stations of the Cross are fourteen representations of Our Lord on the way to Calvary on Good Friday.

377. *What is a Holy Water Stoup?*

A Holy Water Stoup is a place found in many Churches containing blessed water for persons to use in Signing the Cross on entering and leaving Church.

XXIX. The Church Seasons

378. *Why are different colours used in the Church Vestments?*

Different colours are used in the Church Vestments to mark the different seasons of the Church Year.

379. *What is the Church Year?*

The Church Year is the arrangement of the Fasts and Festivals of the Church.

380. *When does the Church Year begin?*

The Church Year begins with Advent Sunday or the Fourth Sunday before Christmas.

381. *What are the Three great Festivals of the Church Year?*

The Three great Festivals of the Church Year are Christmas, Easter and Pentecost or Whitsunday.

382. *What are the Chief Fasts of the Church Year?*

The Chief Fasts of the Church Year are Advent and Lent.

383. *What are the two Fast days most strictly kept?*

The two Fast days most strictly kept are Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

384. *What are the last two weeks in Lent called?*

The last two weeks in Lent are called Passion Week and Holy Week.

385. *Why is Maundy Thursday in Holy Week specially observed?*

Maundy Thursday is specially observed because on this day Our Lord instituted the Blessed Sacrament. This day is a Festival until after the Mass and is then a Fast.

386. *Why are Sundays specially kept?*

Sundays are specially kept in honour of the Resurrection of Our Lord.

387. *What is the Church's Rule for Sunday?*

The Church's Rule for Sunday is to be present at Mass unless prevented by grave cause and to keep from unnecessary work.

388. *Why are Fridays specially kept?*

Fridays are specially kept in memory of the Crucifixion of Our Lord.

389. *What is our special duty for Friday?*

Our special duty for Friday is to abstain from meat and entertainments.

390. *What are Saints' Days?*

Saints' Days are those kept in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Apostles, Martyrs and Confessors of the Church and those whose lives were especially holy.

391. *What are Ember Days?*

Ember Days are those on which we specially pray for those who are to be ordained to the Sacred Ministry.

392. *What are Rogation Days?*

Rogation Days are the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before Ascension Day, when we specially pray for the harvests of the world.

393. *What is All Saints' Day?*

All Saints' Day is the first day of November, when we commemorate the Saints in Glory.

394. *What is All Souls' Day?*

All Souls' Day is the day after All Saints' Day and is kept by special Masses and Prayers for the faithful departed that they may rest in peace and that light perpetual may shine upon them.

395. *What is the Festival of Corpus Christi?*

The Festival of Corpus Christi is the Thursday after Trinity Sunday, appointed in the 13th century in honour of Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament.

396. *Should not everyone have a Rule of Life?*

Yes: everyone should have a Rule of Life.

397. *Why should we have a Rule of Life?*

We should have a Rule of Life to help us in the Practice of Religion.

398. *What should our Rule of Life consist of?*

Our Rule of Life should consist of Prayer, Worship, Communion, Confession, and Good Works, that we may develop a Christian Character, full of the Beauty of Holiness.

399. *What Prayers should we say every Morning, Noon and Night?*

The Prayers we should say every Morning, Noon and Night are the Lord's Prayer, the Angelus (or else the Hail Mary), the Glory be to the Father and such other devotions as are set forth in our Book of Devotion or we wish to say. We should learn specially to make Intercessions for "all sorts and conditions of men."

400. *How are some of the Psalms arranged?*

Some of the Psalms are arranged to be the Seven Penitential Psalms, 6, 32, 38, 51, 102, 130, 143, the Gradual Psalms, 120 to 134, and the Psalm of the Saints, 119.

401. *Now repeat a Special Act of Devotion to Our Lord in the Blessed Sacrament called the "Anima Christi."*

Soul of Christ, sanctify me;
Body of Christ, save me;
Blood of Christ, refresh me;
Water from the Side of Christ wash me;
Passion of Christ, strengthen me:
O, Good Jesu, hear me;
Within Thy Wounds hide me;
Suffer me not to be separated from Thee;
From the malicious enemy defend me;
In the hour of death call me,
And bid me come to Thee;
That with Thy Saints I may praise Thee
For all eternity. Amen.

402. *What becomes of the souls of the faithful at death?*

The souls of the faithful at death enter the Place of Departed Spirits or Purgatory to be prepared and purified for Heaven.

403. *Should we not reverence the bodies of the dead?*

Yes: we should reverence the bodies of the dead.

404. *How do we reverence the bodies of the dead?*

We reverence the bodies of the dead by loving care for them, placing near them a Crucifix and Lighted Candles and when possible watching and praying by their side.

405. *Should not their funeral service be a Requiem Mass?*

Yes: their funeral service should be a Requiem Mass, wherein we plead Our Lord's Death and Passion for the dear departed.

406. *Why do we call such a Mass a "Requiem"?*

We call such a Mass a "Requiem" from the opening word of the Latin antiphon meaning "Rest eternal grant to them O Lord and let Light perpetual shine upon them."

407. *Why at a Requiem Mass do we have the Absolution of the body?*

At a Requiem Mass we have the Absolution of the body because through the power and mercy of God the bodies of the faithful will rise glorious at the final resurrection day.

408. *Is not Death really the entrance into Life Everlasting?*

Yes; Death is really the entrance into Life Everlasting, for which life here is but the preparation.

409. *What are the "Beatitudes"?*

The "Beatitudes" are Our Lord's blessings from the Sermon on the Mount and are:

Blessed are the poor in spirit: for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven;

Blessed are they that mourn: for they shall be comforted;

Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth;

Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled;

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy;

Blessed are the pure in heart: for they shall see God;

Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God;

Blessed are they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven;

Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for My Sake.

Rejoice and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in Heaven.

410. *Repeat the Lord's Prayer called "Our Father."*

Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, As it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver + us from evil. Amen.

411. *What is the Memorial of our Redemption?*

The Memorial of our Redemption is the Collect: O Saviour of the world, Who by Thy Cross and Precious Blood hast redeemed us, save us and help us, we humbly beseech Thee, O Lord.

412. *Repeat the "Hail Mary," sometimes called the "Memorial of the Incarnation."*

Hail, Mary! Full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

413. *What is the "Gloria Patri"?*

The "Gloria Patri" is the praise of God the Blessed Trinity: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

414. *Repeat the Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ.*

The Grace + of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all evermore.

415. *Do you know a form of Grace before Meals?*

Bless +, O Lord, these gifts to our use, and us to Thy service, for Jesus Christ's sake. Amen.

416. *Do you know a Thanksgiving after Meals?*

Thanks + be to Thee, O God, for all Thy Mercies. Let us go forth with grateful hearts to live to Thy Honour and Glory.

417. *Now say the short form for private Confession every night.*

I confess to Almighty God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost, before the whole company of Heaven, that I have sinned exceedingly in thought, word and deed, through my fault, my own fault, my own most grievous fault and especially I accuse myself of the following sins:

(*Here one silently recalls one's sins by name and confesses them to God.*)

For these and all other sins which I cannot now remember I am heartily sorry and firmly purpose amendment, humbly asking of God pardon and forgiveness, with space to lead a better life.

Therefore, I beseech God to have mercy upon me, through the Merits and Mediation of Jesus Christ and all the Saints to pray for me unto the Lord. Amen.

A DEVOTIONAL DRILL

In the Name + of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in Heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation: but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Repeat the Apostles' Creed.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ His Only Son Our Lord: Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary: Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into Hell: The third day He rose again from the dead: He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty: From thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost: The Holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints: The Forgiveness of sins: The Resurrection of the body + And the Life Everlasting. Amen.

¶ *All standing straight up, with the right hand take successively the thumb and the different fingers of the left hand and say:*

— I am the child of God.
— I must believe in God.
— I must love God.
— I must worship God.
— I must serve God.

¶ *Then signing a large cross over oneself, touching successively the forehead, the breast, the left shoulder and the right shoulder say at the same time:*

— I will love God with all my Mind,
— With all my Heart
— With all my Soul
— And with all my Strength.

¶ *Then all together make an Act of Faith, Hope, Love, Repentance and Amendment, saying:*

— O my God, I believe in Thee,
— I hope in Thee,
— And I love Thee,
— And I grieve that I have so often offended Thee by my sins,
— And I resolve by Thy grace and mercy to lead a better life.

¶ *Still standing let all remember the continual Presence of God, saying together:*

— Thou God seest me.
— Let me ever live to Thine Honour and Glory.

— And may the sense of Thy Presence help me resist the temptations of the World, the Flesh and the Devil.

The Angelus

(Antiphon) The Angel of the Lord came in unto Mary and spake unto her. And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.

Hail Mary, full of Grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women and blessed is the Fruit of thy womb, Jesus. *Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of our death. Amen.*

(Antiphon) And Mary said: Behold the handmaid of the Lord: be it unto me according to Thy Word.

(Here repeat the Hail Mary.)

(Antiphon) And the Word was made Flesh and dwelt among us.

(Here repeat the Hail Mary.)

We beseech Thee, O Lord, pour Thy Grace into our hearts: that as we have known the Incarnation of Thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by His Cross and Passion we may be brought unto the glory of His Resurrection through the same Jesus Christ, Our Lord. Amen.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

¶ *Let us join in saying The Divine Praises:*

Blessed be God,
Blessed be His Holy Name,
Blessed be Jesus Christ, Very God and Very Man,
Blessed be the Name of Jesus,
Blessed be the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus,
Blessed be Jesus Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar,
Blessed be the Holy Ghost the Lord and Giver of Life,
Blessed be the Mother of God, the Blessed Virgin Mary,
Blessed be the Name of Mary, Virgin and Mother,
Blessed be God in His Angels and in His Saints.

¶ *Repeat the Refrain of Saint Patrick's Breastplate:*

Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me;
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.

WHATSOEVER I DO: LET ALL BE DONE TO THE GLORY OF GOD.

The Grace of Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God + and the Fellowship of the Holy Ghost be with us all evermore. *Amen.*